

**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Please replace the present abstract with the following:

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

An improved ~~d~~Digital-data receiver synchronization apparatus and method is provided wherein ~~memory devices in the receiver such as phase-lock loops are provided with composite phase-frequency detectors, mutually cross-connected comparison feedback means, or both to provide robust reception of digital data signals. The apparatus and method are preferably utilized with synchronous architecture wherein a~~ A single master clock is may be used to provide frequency signals to the memory devices, and also can be used with asynchronous architecture. Advantages can include The apparatus and method provide fast lock-up time in moderately to severely noisy conditions, greater tolerance to noise and jitter when locked, and have improved tolerance to clock asymmetries.